

who know him have never known him to flinch in the face of prejudice.

The citation Bonda received, as the title of doctor is conferred on him, speaks of his "outstanding accomplishments in commerce," his "unwavering support of education" and his "tireless efforts to make Cleveland a better place."

Dr. Bonda has done it all, and then some.

[From the Cleveland Plain Dealer, June 8, 1995]

THE MAN WHO SAVED THE TRIBE
(By Russell Schneider)

If you're old enough to have been a fan of the Indians in the 1970s—make that the dreadful 1970s—surely the name Alva T. "Ted" Bonda will ring a bell.

And if you're not of that vintage, you are hereby notified that had it not been for Bonda's efforts and perseverance during those frustrating seasons from 1972-77, not only would the current Indians not be doing as well as they are, they also would not be the Cleveland Indians.

By the same token, neither would we have that downtown jewel called "Jacobs Field," or even Gateway's neighboring Gund Arena.

It was Bonda who pledged his personal finances and agreed to take command of the faltering franchise as its chief operating officer in 1973 when the club was not only insolvent, but also teetering near bankruptcy under the inept Nick Mileti.

As it was reported to the 50-plus investors/partners in the ownership of the Indians at the time, the club's losses were \$500,000 in 1972, \$1.4 million in 1973, \$500,000 in 1974, \$1.1 million in 1975, \$680,000 in 1976 and \$1 million in 1977 for a not-so-grand total of nearly \$5.2 million.

Despite the red ink that threatened to drown the franchise, it was Bonda who steadfastly refused to consider selling the club to Donald Trump, the wealthy New York developer.

Bonda insisted that Trump and other vultures offering to buy the sick franchise sign an agreement that they would keep the Indians in Cleveland. They all declined.

Thus, Bonda was stuck with the franchise, so to speak, and made the best of it, as Art Modell, then the Indians' landlord, acknowledged in a 1978 speech:

"The man (Bonda) is a miracle worker. He was able to successfully employ his talents to keep the banks and other creditors from closing in. He was able to sell small pieces of the partnership interests to new people to keep pumping the club with an infusion of capital.

"When a franchise—any kind of a sports franchise, be it baseball, football, basketball, hockey or what have you—is in trouble as the Indians were for so long, the quickest way to cure the trouble is to move it, or sell it and allow it to be moved.

"History is full of franchises moving to greener pastures, and as long as there is a New Orleans or a Washington—any major city with an empty stadium—there's always the prospect that somebody will come along and lift your franchise, move it away.

"But Ted Bonda never let that happen. No matter how dire the straits were, and they were very dire, he was able to keep the sheriff from the door, to keep juggling all the balls until something could be done.

"Above all, Bonda did an outstanding job of keeping the Indians franchise in a condition that would allow a new group to come in and take over," and keep the team in Cleveland.

Which is what happened on Feb. 3, 1978, when native Clevelanders F.J. "Steve" O'Neill purchased control of the franchise, ensuring it would remain in Cleveland.

When O'Neill died in 1983, his estate sold the club in 1986 to Richard Jacobs, under whose ownership the franchise has flourished, financially and artistically.

All of which is relevant now because, on Sunday, Cleveland State University will bestow the honorary degree of doctor of humane letters upon Alva T. "Ted" Bonda.

It is an honor well-deserved by a 78-year-old guy who was too poor to go to college, whose business career began as a clerk in a shoe store and as a parking lot attendant, and who became one of the most influential civic and political leaders in Ohio—as well as having saved the Indians for Cleveland in the '70s.

And if—when?—the Indians win the American League pennant, or even the A.L. Central Division championship, I can't think of anyone who'd be more deserving of the honor of throwing out the ceremonial first pitch than Ted Bonda.

Without his involvement 20 years ago, there probably wouldn't be major league baseball here.

P.S. In view of his recent and ongoing "no-threat" threat to sell the Browns and allow them to be moved to another city if taxpayers don't renovate the Stadium for his team, it would be prudent for Art Modell to re-read the comments he made in 1978 praising Bonda.

ORDERS FOR SATURDAY, AUGUST
5, 1995

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand in recess until the hour of 8:30 a.m., August 5, 1995; that following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 2020, the Treasury, Postal appropriations bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, following the opening statements on the Treasury, Postal appropriations bill, at 9 a.m., the Senate will begin 3 hours of debate on a committee amendment. All Senators can expect votes on or in relation to the postal appropriations bill or the DOD authorization or the Interior appropriations bill during Saturday's session. All Senators are reminded that a cloture motion was filed on the DOD authorization bill, therefore all first-degree amendments must be filed by 1 p.m. on Saturday.

If there is no further business—

Mr. HARKIN addressed the Chair.

Mr. DOLE. Does the Senator want to speak?

Mr. HARKIN. I would just like to make a statement.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. DOLE. I have the floor. I will put it in the final unanimous-consent request.

Mr. HARKIN. Five minutes.

ORDER FOR RECESS

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent after the Senator from Iowa is recognized for 5 minutes, that the Senate stand in recess under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Iowa is recognized for 5 minutes.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 1996

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, with all due respect to the majority leader, last year I remember standing on this floor about this time when we had one of the most important measures ever to confront the American people before the Senate on whether or not we would have a health care bill to address the real needs of people in this country. And my colleagues on the other side would not permit us to vote on it. Last year we were here trying to pass a health care bill of extreme importance to the American people, trying to hammer it out, trying to work out our differences. A lot of people here had travel plans to take their families on vacation. It got canceled.

Our colleagues on the other side of the aisle would not permit us to reach a conclusion of that health care bill. Amendment after amendment after amendment after amendment—they would not let us reach a final conclusion on the health care bill.

Oh, but now, now when the Pentagon bill is before us, when we want to abrogate the ABM Treaty, when we want to throw more lard, as my colleague from North Dakota said the other day—he said he cannot call it pork, that does a pig a disservice—putting in \$7 billion more than what the Pentagon wanted.

Oh, no, now we have to reach a conclusion on this. We cannot have the time to debate our amendments in full and open debate. Rush to judgment. Close it off. And threats that somehow we are going to be here until the 19th, 20th, or whatever.

I say to the distinguished majority leader, we heard that last year when the shoe was on the other the foot.

Mr. DOLE. We were here, too.

Mr. HARKIN. And the other side would not let us vote on the health care bill. They kept rolling out those amendments one after the other. Oh, but now there is something wrong with our side if we want to legitimately debate and amend this pork barrel bill, this bill that puts up walls that says you cannot take any money out of the Pentagon to help educate our kids, to help care for the elderly, to help put a little heat in the homes of our elderly people. No, we cannot do that, we put a wall around it.

Now they tell us we cannot debate it fully and fairly? I have amendments on this bill that I want to debate, having to do with space-based lasers and Star